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**MS AF**  
REPLY UNDER  
37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 7506

PATENT  
1163-0266P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Seiji KOZAKI et al. Conf.: 7506  
Appl. No.: 09/518,264 Group: 2667  
Filed: March 3, 2000 Examiner: P. JONES  
For: MULTIPLEXING SYSTEM AND MULTIPLEXING  
METHOD OF TRIBUTARY SIGNALS

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AUG 31 2004

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Technology Center 2600

**MS AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 27, 2004

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated June 15, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This paper includes:

Amendments to the Claims reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper; and

Remarks/Arguments which begin on page 15 of this paper.